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No. 150

House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. Ross).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

October 4, 2007.

I hereby appoint the Honorable MIKE ROSS to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

NANCY PELOSI,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Reverend Dr. Clay Evans, Pastor Emeritus, Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church, Chicago, Illinois, offered the following prayer:

O God, our Father, You have said in Your word, "If my people, which are called by my name, shall humble themselves and pray, and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then will I hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

I come to You today in the mighty name of Jesus, thanking You and praising You for our great Nation. I thank You for the governing plan You gave to our Forefathers.

I lift up our Congress. I pray that by Your power the legislative body will make laws that are right and just.

Father, I ask You to give them wisdom to make decisions that will strengthen and prosper our Nation.

I pray that You will cause the Members of Congress to trust You with all their heart and lean not to their own understanding. Allow them to acknowledge You alone are God and You will direct their path.

Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the

last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from South Carolina (Mr. WILSON) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Curtis, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2467. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 69 Montgomery Street in Jersey City, New Jersey, as the "Frank J. Guarini Post Office Building".

H.R. 2587. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 555 South 3rd Street Lobby in Memphis, Tennessee, as the "Kenneth T. Whalum, Sr. Post Office Building".

H.R. 2654. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 202 South Dumont Avenue in Woonsocket, South Dakota, as the "Eleanor McGovern Post Office Building".

H.R. 2765. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 44 North Main Street in Hughesville, Pennsylvania, as the "Master Sergeant Sean Michael Thomas Post Office".

H.R. 2778. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 3 Quaker Ridge Road in New Rochelle, New York, as the "Robert Merrill Postal Station".

H.R. 2825. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 326 South Main Street in Princeton, Illinois, as the "Owen Lovejoy Princeton Post Office Building".

H.R. 3052. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 954 Wheeling Avenue in Cambridge, Ohio, as the "John Herschel Glenn, Jr. Post Office Building".

H.R. 3106. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 805 Main Street in Ferdinand, Indiana, as the "Staff Sergeant David L. Nord Post Office".

The message also announced that the Senate has passed with an amendment in which the concurrence of the House is requested, bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 1585. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2082. An act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.

The message also announced, that the Senate insists upon its amendment to the bill (H.R. 1585) "An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. LEVIN, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. BYRD, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Mr. REED, Mr. AKAKA, Mr. NELSON (FL), Mr. NELSON (NE), Mr. BAYH, Mrs. CLINTON, Mr. PRYOR, Mr. WEBB, Mrs. MCCASKILL, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. WARNER, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. SESSIONS, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. GRAHAM, Mrs. DOLE, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. THUNE, Mr. MARTINEZ, and Mr. CORKER, to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Senate insists upon its amendment to

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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H11253

the bill (H.R. 2082) "An Act to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2008 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes," requests a conference with the House on the disagreeing votes of the two Houses thereon, and appoints Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. FEINSTEIN, Mr. WYDEN, Mr. BAYH, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. FEINGOLD, Mr. NELSON (FL), Mr. WHITEHOUSE, Mr. BOND, Mr. WARNER, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. HATCH, Ms. SNOWE, and Mr. BURR;

As additional conferees: Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. KYL; to be the conferees on the part of the Senate.

The message also announced that the Senate has passed a bill of the following title in which the concurrence of the House is requested:

S. 2106. An act to provide nationwide subpoena authority for actions brought under the September 11 Victim Compensation Fund of 2001.

The message also announced that the Senate has agreed to the following concurrent resolution:

S. Con. Res. 45. Concurrent resolution commending the Ed Block Courage Award Foundation for its work in aiding children and families affected by child abuse, and designating November 2007 as National Courage Month.

WELCOMING THE REVEREND DR. CLAY EVANS

(Mr. RUSH asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome our guest chaplain, the Reverend Dr. Clay Evans, the pastor emeritus of the Fellowship Baptist Church of Chicago, Illinois.

Dr. Evans, the son of A. Henry and Estanauly Evans, was born on June 23, 1925, in Brownsville, Tennessee. Ordained a Baptist minister in 1950, the illustrious founding pastor of the affectionately called "SHIP" has been responsible for launching the ministerial careers of 93 men and women.

Mr. Speaker, he was my catechizer at my own ordination.

Dr. Evans has been a leader in the civil rights movement since 1965. He was a staunch supporter in the Chicago crusade of Dr. Martin Luther King. That staunch support caused funding for his new church to be cut off, and the structure stood unfinished for 8 years.

From 1971 to 1976 he was the founding national board chairman of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition. Rev. Evans was the founding president and chairman of the African American Religious Connection, the founding president of the Broadcast Ministers of Chicago, and was a board member of the National Baptist Convention, U.S.A., Inc.

This radio and television minister, who reached listeners weekly in more

than 20 States, has been happily married to the former Lutha Mae Hollingshed for more than 60 years, and they are the proud parents of five children.

Although Rev. Evans retired as pastor on December 8, 2000, he remains a man of faith, a man of vision, and one who emphatically believes: "It is no secret what God can do."

REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 3554

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, due to an error in my office, the name JOHN SALAZAR was added to the bill H.R. 3554, and I would ask unanimous consent that his name be removed from H.R. 3554.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Iowa?

There was no objection.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair will entertain up to five further requests for 1-minute speeches on each side of the aisle.

REPUBLICANS NEED TIME TO REFLECT ON SCHIP

(Mr. BLUMENAUER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, my Republican friends need some time to reflect on the children's health program; not over the course of the 2 weeks just for pressure, but to get their facts straight, to stop getting their information from the White House talking points and get information from the American people, their Governor, about how the program actually works.

President Bush is worried that it won't go to poor children because some families earning up to \$83,000 a year will be eligible.

First of all, this is not a program for poor children, most of whom are already eligible for Medicaid. It is for children of working families, 90 percent of whom earn less than \$40,000 a year. No one gets \$83,000, because the Bush administration turned down one State's request. A few do have higher incomes because the States requested it and the Bush administration approved it.

The Bush administration, if they don't like families getting it, can stop approving those waivers.

SUPPORT THE MENTAL HEALTH SECURITY FOR AMERICA'S FAMILIES ACT

(Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TIM MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, last April, 33 students

were killed at Virginia Tech. That tragedy exposed problems with Federal laws that are a barrier to schools communicating with parents when a student has a serious problem. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 states that students' records cannot be released except "to protect the health and safety of the student and others."

Unfortunately, the interpretation of that law is so unclear that schools are fearful of being sued.

The just-released report from the National Association of Attorneys General Task Force on Campus Safety calls for an update of the FERPA law that would allow for protection from liability if schools make good-faith efforts to protect students, faculty and staff.

That is precisely what my bill, H.R. 2220, offers, a way to allow schools to communicate with parents when a student has significant mental health problems that increase the risk for suicide, homicide or violent acts while we still protect the confidentiality of records.

I ask that all my colleagues join me and Representative GRACE NAPOLITANO in cosponsoring our bill, the Mental Health Security for Families in Education Act, and work to protect our students.

Let's take down the walls between parents and schools. Let's take action now to save lives tomorrow.

PRIORITIES

(Mr. EMANUEL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, in 7 years, the President has been awfully reluctant to use his veto pen. But when it comes to important health care legislation, this President hasn't hesitated to say "no" to the American people.

Stem cell research, which could cure diseases and save millions of lives, the American people support it. The President vetoed it.

Children's health insurance provides health care to children from working middle-class families who earn too much to qualify for Medicaid, but can't afford private insurance. The American people support it. This President vetoed it.

In my district, Dolores Sweeney works for an insurance company, has three children, and is trying to get private health care for her children, but cannot get it in the private insurance marketplace. Her employer does not provide health care. Her children are on SCHIP. This bill is right for Dolores Sweeney and the 10 million children that get health care through it. The President vetoed it.

Even Republican Senator CHARLES GRASSLEY said about the President and SCHIP, He simply doesn't understand the bill and he is wrong.

The only health care legislation this President supported was a prescription